Introduction to Apache Roller

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Apache Roller Committer
June 2007
Today’s Agenda

- Introductions
- What is Apache Roller?
- Installing Roller
- Roller Architecture
  - Blog Customization
  - Server Customization
- Other Features: Clients and Planet
- Q and A
Covalent is the Leading Provider of Support and Services for Apache Software Foundation Open Source Projects, Namely Tomcat, Geronimo, Roller, Axis, & Apache, the World's Leading Web Server*

Covalent is One of the Few Sources of Full Commercial Support for Apache, Axis, Roller, Geronimo & Tomcat on a Global Basis

Covalent Currently Supports More Than 50% of Fortune 500 and 20% of Global 2000 Companies

*62% global Web server marketshare ~Netcraft April 2006 Web Server Survey
Who is Matt Raible?

- One of the first Roller users and Committers - started in August 2002
- Committer on several open source projects: Apache Roller, AppFuse, XDoclet, Struts Menu, Display Tag
- Java EE 5.0 and JSF 1.2 Expert Group Member
- Author: Spring Live (SourceBeat) and contributor to Pro JSP (Apress)
What is Apache Roller?

Apache Roller is a full-featured, multi-user and group-blog server suitable for blog sites large and small

Cool Features:
- Multi-user and Group blogging
- Comment moderation and spam prevention
- Complete control over UI with templates
- Built-in Search
- RSS 2.0 and Atom 1.0 Support
- Pluggable Cache and Rendering System
History

✔ Started by Dave Johnson in 2000 as “Homeport”

http://rollerweblogger.org/roller/date/20021231
History of Roller

- In 2002, Dave ditched EJBs and HAHTsite IDE for open source tools (Ant, Castor, Struts, and Velocity)
- April 5, 2002: Roller 0.9.0 Released
- April 17, 2002: O’Reilly Article “Building an Open Source J2EE Weblogger” Published
- July 31 - August 7, 2002: The world starts blogging with Roller

http://rollerweblogger.org/roller/date/20021231
Roller since 2002

- Roller now powers jroller.com, blogs.sun.com, IBM developerWorks blogs and many others
- Dave hired by Sun to work on Roller full-time in September 2004
- Roller began incubation at Apache in June 2005
- April 23, 2007: Graduated and released 3.1
But what is Roller?

- Roller is a **blogging** engine
- **Blogs** make web publishing easy
  - Everyone can do it
  - No need for IT or Webmasters
  - Tools are in the users hands
- **Feeds** make reading blogs easy
  - Feeds are XML-based: RSS or Atom
  - You *subscribe* to a feed in a **Feed Reader**
  - **Feed Readers** are like inboxes for the web
Posting a Weblog Entry

Edit Entry

Create & Edit Preferences

New Entry | Entries | Comments | Categories | Bookmarks | File Uploads | Referrers

Editing weblog entry in weblog rd

Title: What a Trip - Amsterdam was a blast!
Status: Published (Last updated 5/8/07 6:25 PM)
Permalink: http://raibledesigns.com/rd/entry/what_a_trip_amsterdam_was
Category: /General
Tags: amsterdam apachecon europe germany

Content:

Last week’s trip to Europe for ApacheCon EU was nothing short of spectacular. Amsterdam was an incredible city that amazed me with its awesome biking system (and usage!), incredible atmosphere and a nice sense of relaxation. I think the picture below sums up our trip nicely. The weather couldn’t have been better - sunny and warm with a cool breeze.
Viewing a Weblog Entry

Raible Designs | What a Trip – Amsterdam was a blast!

What a Trip – Amsterdam was a blast!

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ApacheCon was likely an excellent conference, but I’m proud to say I didn’t attend a single session. I did manage to make it to Sun’s party on Thursday night (thanks Dave!), but that was about it. At the party, the Wicket guys had a BOF, which my dad and I sat in on. Thanks to Martin, Belo and others for the good conversation, even if we did have to shout.
Viewing a Weblog Entry

Covalent Technologies
Thoughts and Insights from the Leading Provider of Enterprise Open Source Solutions.

Friday March 16, 2007

Critical Security Update Affecting Tomcat

Affected Products:
All distributed Tomcat versions 4.x, 5.0, 5.5.22 and prior, and 6.0.9 and prior either shipped by Covalent with Enterprise Ready Server or packaged by the Apache Software Foundation.

Problem Description:
Affected versions of Tomcat permit backslashes in the form of "\\" or \%5C in the URL and interpret this as a path delimiter on all platforms. This allows an attacker coming through a proxy to reach an application that is not supposed to be visible, or was configured with restrictions at the Apache HTTP Server outward facing proxy (via mod_proxy or mod_1k).

For example:
/webapps
/fcp
Reading a Weblog Entry

What a Trip - Amsterdam was a blast!

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Why choose Roller?

- Proven, full-featured blogging solution for big sites
  - Used by Sun, IBM, Yale University, Covalent and ESRI
- Open Source and Apache Licensed
- Active and growing community at Apache
- Standard Java Web Application Architecture
Why choose Roller?

- It works great if you know what you’re doing
- Nice looking example sites:
  - http://blogs.usd.edu/jrbethke
  - http://rollerweblogger.org/roller
  - http://raibledesigns.com
  - http://ryandelaplante.com
  - http://blog.covalent.net/roller/covalent/
Installing Roller

1. Download Roller 3.1 from http://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/ROLLER/Roller+Downloads

2. Download Hibernate and other JARs from https://roller.dev.java.net/servlets/ProjectDocumentList?folderID=6962

3. Copy JARs from java.net download into apache-roller-3.1/webapp/roller/WEB-INF/lib


6. Create database with files in WEB-INF/dbscripts:

   mysqladmin -u root -p create roller
   cd webapp/roller/WEB-INF/dbscripts/mysql
   mysql -u root -p roller < createdb.sql
7. Download and install Tomcat 6 from http://tomcat.apache.org/download-60.cgi

8. Copy `apache-roller-3.1/webapp/roller` to `$CATALINA_HOME/webapps/ROOT`

9. Copy `activation.jar`, `mail.jar` and `mysql-connector-java-5.0.3-bin.jar` to `$CATALINA_HOME/lib` (common/lib for Tomcat 5.x)

» continued on next page
10. Create `ROOT/META-INF/context.xml` with the following contents:

```xml
<Context path="" reloadable="false" antiJARLocking="true"
antiResourceLocking="false" allowLinking="true">

<Resource name="jdbc/rollerdb" auth="Container"
type="javax.sql.DataSource"
maxActive="20" maxIdle="10" maxWait="100"
driverClassName="com.mysql.jdbc.Driver"
username="root" password=""
url="jdbc:mysql://localhost/roller"/>

<Resource name="mail/Session" auth="Container"
type="javax.mail.Session"
mail.smtp.host="localhost" />

</Context>
```
Roller Install: Startup

Start Tomcat and create your weblog at http://localhost:8080
Create a User

New User Registration

Use this form to register a new Roller user, please create only one user account per person.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Name</td>
<td>Matt Raible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Username</td>
<td>mraible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Password</td>
<td>*******</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Password (Confirm)</td>
<td>*******</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:matt@raibledesigns.com">matt@raibledesigns.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locale</td>
<td>English (United States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timezone</td>
<td>MDT – America/Denver</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your full name (with no HTML).

A short one word username for your user account. Please limit it to simple ASCII alphanumeric characters (a-z, A-Z and 0-9) and do not use HTML.

Your password.

Confirm your password.

Please enter valid email address, the site administrator may disable your account if he/she cannot reach you via email.

Your preferred locale.

Your preferred timezone.

Register User | Cancel
Create a Weblog

Use this form to create a new weblog for you or for you and a group of your friends.

- **Name**: Matt's Weblog
- **Description**: 
- **Handle**: blog
  
  **URL**: http://localhost:8080/blog
- **Email Address**: matt@raibledesigns.com
- **Locale**: English (United States)
- **Timezone**: MDT – America/Denver
- **Theme**: brushedmetal

The name is the title of your weblog; it will be displayed at the top of your weblog page, and in the title field of your weblog's newsfeed. This field should not include HTML.

The description of your weblog may be displayed at the top of your weblog (depending on the theme you choose) and it will be used in description or subtitle field of your newsfeed. This field should not include HTML.

The handle is a short one word name for your weblog. It will be used in your URL, so please limit it to simple ASCII alphanumeric characters (a-z, A-Z and 0-9) and do not use HTML.

Your email address or the email address of the person responsible for the weblog that you are creating.

The default locale to be used for the display of this weblog when the browser does not specify a locale.

The timezone to be used for entry and display of this weblog.

The theme to be used to display this weblog. Later, you can easily switch to another theme or edit the themes templates to customize it to your liking.
The obligatory first post
Web UI via Java Servlets and JSP
- Front controller, Web MVC and Open Session In View patterns
Persistence via JDBC
- Factory, Façade and Data Mapper patterns
Roller Architecture: Geek Speak

- Roller Web: Web and UI Layer
  - Editor UI via **Struts** and **JSP**, blog and feed rendering via **Velocity**
  - Feed parsing via **ROME**, Blogger API via **Apache XML-RPC**

- Roller Beans: Business and Persistence Layer
  - **Hibernate** for DBMS, **Lucene** for search
What’s New in Roller 4.0

- Easier Theme Customization
- Easy Installation
- Java 5, Open JPA and Struts 2

http://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/ROLLER/What%27s+New+in+Roller+4.0
Weblog Customization

- Each weblog is defined by user-editable templates
- A weblog has three required templates: **Weblog**, **_day** and **_css**
  - + any number of user-defined templates
- Template language: Apache Velocity
  - Other languages available via plugins
- Data available to templates via **Models**
Example Weblog Template

```html
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01 Transitional//EN">
<html>
<head>
    <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
    <title>$model.weblog.name : $model.weblogPage.name</title>
    #showAutodiscoverylinks($model.weblog)
    <style type="text/css">#includeTemplate($model.weblog "_css")</style>
</head>
<body>

<div class="content_wrapper">
    <div class="content">
        <h1 class="weblogName">$utils.escapeHTML($model.weblog.name)</h1>
        
        <center>
            #set($rootCategory = $model.weblog.getWeblogCategory("nil"))
            #showWeblogCategoryLinksList($rootCategory false false)
        </center>

        #set($pager = $model.getWeblogEntriesPager())
        <div class="next-previous">
            #if ($model.results)
                #ShowWeblogSearchAgainForm($model.weblog)
                #showNextPrevSearchControl($pager)
            #else
                #showNextPrevEntriesControl($pager)
            #end
        </div>

        #showWeblogEntriesPager($pager)
```
As an end user, you can:

- Without hacking HTML or CSS:
  - Preview and switch to a new theme
  - Add bookmarks to your blogroll
  - Add categories and tags

- With some HTML, CSS and template hacking:
  - Customize your blog templates
  - Override Roller macros
  - Create your own blog themes
Server Customization

✔ Single-Sign on with Acegi Security (Yale’s CAS, OpenID)

✔ Use Roller Plugins to:
  ✔ Transform entry content at display time
  ✔ Plugin your own models for use in templates
  ✔ Plugin your own template language
  ✔ Add your own comment validation rules
As a developer, you can use Roller web services from any language

- Automated blogging via MetaWeblog or Atom Protocol
- Automate administration via Roller Admin Protocol
- Add new plugins, written in Java

- Plugins for: JSPWiki, Emoticon, Technorati, Wikipedia, Google, Textile
Other Features

- Planets are useful for aggregating feeds from many sources
- Weblog clients make it easy to publish and edit entries to your blog
What’s a Planet?

- **A Community Aggregator**

- Portal-like web application which displays weblog posts from a group of closely related but separately hosted blogs

- Provides aggregated feeds so that readers may subscribe to the group as a whole

- Most popular is **Planet**, which is Python-based
Example Planets

June 19, 2007

Daniel Glazman

FullerScreen Pro, first edited slide...
...

FullerScreen 2.02

I have just released FullerScreen 2.02. Available originally got it from us). Stay tuned for add-on icon was sometimes unresponsive fixed: ok for f

Zak Greant

MoFo Weekly Report 2007-06-15

A second quiet week on the Foundation front - I'm nested a bit. I need to be cramming this next week

(more...)

Talked to open page (see Activity window for details)
Roller Planet

- Roller’s built-in Planet server
- Standalone Planet server ready to ship
  - Multiple Planets per server
  - Each Planet defines Aggregation Groups
- Based on Roller
  - Same back-end architecture
  - Same rendering system
Weblog Clients

- Windows: w.bloggar
- Mac: MarsEdit
- Firefox: Scribefire
- All: Roller!
Weblog Client Screenshots

MarsEdit is a web editor that works well in most browsers and is highly customizable. It even has spell-checking.

Post: 697

Aprobatando a "brinquedo" em casa, resolvi fazer umas filmagens com os meninos para ter um registro em vídeo dessa fase da vida cedr. Minha infância foi toda registrada em Super 8 e VHS pelo meu pai que era um aficionado no assunto.


Fizemos as imagens, várias tomadas, e uma em especial foi feita com uma espada de plástico simulando um sabre de luz, aí que eu prometi que ia fazer os efeitos especiais. Parece numa batalha! Eu tinha visto uns <a href="http://www.theforce.net/thereal/" target="_blank">tutorial</a>s de efeitos especiais. Como eu não tenho o software que a ILM de George Lucas tem, que usa inteligência artificial para reconhecer as paredes nas imagens e facilitar o trabalho, usei a técnica original (usada no filme de 1977) que desenha quadro a quadro os efeitos do sabre.
Client Settings

- URL to Blog: http://yourserver.com
- Server API URL: http://yourserver.com/roller-services/xmlrpc
- Many clients have support for Roller, but they’re missing “roller-services” in the Server API URL
- Username and Password
Questions?

- Roller User Mailing List:
  - user@roller.apache.org

- Covalent Support:
  - http://support.covalent.net
  - 925/974-8800/800/444-1935
  - support@covalent.net